

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

Monica Valenzuela	Case No.
Plaintiff,	
v.	<b>COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES UNDER THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF</b>
Asset Acceptance, LLC	
Defendant.	<b>JURY DEMAND ENDORSED HEREIN</b>

---

**PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff, Monica Valenzuela, (“Monica”), is a natural person who resided in Montclair, California, at all times relevant to this action.
2. Defendant, Asset Acceptance, LLC, (“AA”), is a Delaware Limited Liability Company that maintained its principal place of business in Warren, Michigan, at all times relevant to this action.

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

3. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1331, this Court has federal question jurisdiction over this matter as it arises under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (“FDCPA”), 15 U.S.C. §1692 et seq. and the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, U.S.C. §1367(a).
4. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b), venue is proper because Defendant resides in this judicial district.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

5. AA uses a predictive dialer system.
6. Before AA began contacting Monica, it and Monica had no prior business relationship and Monica had never provided express consent to AA to be contacted on her cellular telephone.
7. AA regularly uses instrumentalities of interstate commerce and the mails to collect consumer debts owed or due or asserted to be owed or due another.
8. The principal source of AA's revenue is debt collection.
9. AA is a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6).
10. As described, *infra*, AA contacted Monica to collect a debt that was incurred primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.
11. This alleged obligation is a "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(5).
12. AA is a "consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(3).
13. On several occasions, the dates of which will be discovered through discovery, AA willingly and knowingly used an automatic telephone dialing system to call Monica on her cellular phone multiple times in violation of the TCPA. See *Mais v. Gulf Coast Collection Bureau, Inc.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 65603, \*10 (S.D. Fla. 2013); See also *Gager v. Dell Fin. Servs., LLC*, 727 F.3d 265 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2013).
14. Around a year ago, AA began contacting Monica on Monica's cellular phone in connection with the collection of the debt.
15. Soon after AA began contacting Monica, Monica requested AA cease further calls to Monica.

16. Despite this request, AA contacted Monica excessively on Monica's cellular phone in connection with the collection of the debt.
17. On at least one occasion, Monica disputed the debt.
18. On at least one occasion, AA was rude to Monica and insisted Monica owed the debt.
19. Monica has not received any written communication or validation of the debt from AA.
20. On at least one occasion, AA threatened to take Monica to court if Monica did not pay the debt.
21. AA has not taken Monica to court.
22. AA never intended to take Monica to court.
23. On more than one occasion, Monica requested AA cease further calls to Monica.
24. AA caused Monica emotional distress.
25. AA attempted to collect a debt from Monica.
26. AA violated the FDCPA and TCPA.

#### **COUNT ONE**

##### **Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act**

27. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
28. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692c(a)(1) by calling Plaintiff at a time or place known to be inconvenient for Plaintiff.

#### **COUNT TWO**

##### **Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act**

29. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
30. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692d by engaging in conduct the natural consequence of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse Plaintiff in connection with the collection of the debt.

**COUNT THREE**

**Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act**

31. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
32. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692e by using false, deceptive, or misleading representations or means in connection with the collection of the debt.

**COUNT FOUR**

**Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act**

33. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
34. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692f by using unfair or unconscionable means to collect the debt.

**COUNT FIVE**

**Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act**

35. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
36. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692g by failing to send Plaintiff the required notice within five days of Defendant's initial communication with Plaintiff.

**COUNT SIX**

**Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act**

37. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
38. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692g by continuing its efforts to collect the debt without first validating the debt pursuant to Plaintiff's written request.

**COUNT SEVEN**

**Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act**

39. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.

40. Defendant willingly and knowingly violated 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A) on multiple and separate occasions by each time calling Plaintiff's cellular telephone using both an automatic telephone dialing system without Plaintiff's prior express consent.

**JURY DEMAND**

41. Plaintiff demands a trial by jury.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

42. Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

- a. Judgment against Defendant for actual damages, statutory damages, and costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k.
- b. An order enjoining Defendant from placing further telephone calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone number pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).
- c. Judgment against Defendant for statutory damages pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3) for each and every call Defendant made in violation of the TCPA.
- d. For such other legal and/or equitable relief as the Court deems appropriate.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Hyslip & Taylor, LLC LPA

By: /s/ Jeffrey S. Hyslip  
One of Plaintiff's Attorneys

Date: June 25, 2014

Jeffrey S. Hyslip, Esq.  
917 W. 18<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 200  
Chicago, IL 60608  
312-380-6110  
jeffrey@lifetimedebtsolutions.com